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TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9302  
INFO RUEHMIL/AMCONSUL MILAN PRIORITY 9056  
RUEHFL/AMCONSUL FLORENCE PRIORITY 2725  
RUEHNP/AMCONSUL NAPLES PRIORITY 2866  
RUEHGV/USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY 6367  
RUCNDT/USMISSION USUN NEW YORK PRIORITY 0812  
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TAGS: [PHUM](#) [PREL](#) [UNGA](#) [UN](#) [KTIA](#) [IT](#)  
SUBJECT: UN THIRD COMMITTEE: ITALY SUPPORTIVE OF USG  
PRIORITIES

REF: SECSTATE 145641

Classified By: A/Pol M/C Jonathan R. Cohen, for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d)  
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[¶1.](#) (C) Poloff met October 22 with MFA Office Director for Human Rights Laura Carpini to discuss USG priorities in the UN Third Committee as outlined reftel.

[¶2.](#) (C) Carpini said the EU position on "no-action" motions remained unchanged, and Italy supported open debate in the UN as a matter of principle. As evidenced by EU sponsorship of country-specific resolutions on Burma and the DPRK, she said Italy and the EU as a whole recognize it is appropriate to pursue our common human rights goals in the Third Committee, given the flaws of the UN Human Rights Council.

[¶3.](#) (C) Carpini said that EU consultations were underway in New York in an effort to achieve common positions on a number of issues, including the U.S.-sponsored resolution against state-sanctioned rape. She said she understood our concern over amendments to the resolution but that it may be difficult for Italy and other EU members to avoid referring to conventions such as the Convention on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child, as the EU considers them important points of reference and sources of "common language."

[¶4.](#) (C) Given the difficulty she foresaw in passing the Religious Intolerance resolution, Carpini thought it made sense to see if the OIC would be tabling a Defamation of Religion resolution first. If that happened, she thought Brussels would be more inclined to move forward with the Religious Intolerance resolution.  
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